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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/845,171

Examiner

Anh-Vu H Ly

Applicant(s)

HUGHES ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed May 01, 2001.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-33.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 11 July 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>May 01, 2001</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

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DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-33 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not teach or fairly suggest:

(i) data switch ingress and egress ports and data serializer ingress and egress ports further comprise a composite fabric of data switches characterized by at least:

(1) p planes, where p is a power-of-two integer less than or equal to said second plurality of said data serializer ingress and egress ports;

(2) s stages, where s is an odd integer number;

(3) a depth d , where d is a power-of-two integer less than or equal to said first plurality of said data switch ingress and egress ports; said composite fabric comprising $p * s * d$ interconnected ones of said data switches;

(ii) said data switch ingress ports of a first one of said stages are coupled to said data serializer egress ports;

(iii) said data switch egress ports of a sth one of said stages are coupled to said data serializer ingress ports; and

(iv) said data switch egress ports of each nth one of said stages are coupled to data switch ingress ports of each $n+1th$ one of said stages, where $1 < n < s$, as specified in independent claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Shively (US Patent No. 5,978,370) discloses circuit switched switching system.

Sanders (US Patent No. 6,041,050) discloses cell selector method and apparatus for use in time division multiplexers and switches.

Sahlman et al (US Patent No. 6,693,902 B1) discloses cross-connection architecture for SDH signals comprising time and space division switch groups.

Shively (US Patent No. 6,693,903 B1) discloses circuit switched switching system.

Liang (US Patent No. 5,933,427) discloses switch system employing a N:M switch circuit for routing packets among devices in a data communication network.

Kameda et al (US Patent No. 5,627,826) discloses time-slot interchanger.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh-Vu H Ly whose telephone number is 571-272-3175. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on 571-272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

avl



CHI PHAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2667 8/17/09

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